

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Kenichi HIROTA, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1746

SERIAL NO: 09/700,704 :

FILED: NOVEMBER 24, 2000 : EXAMINER: KORNAKOV, M.

FOR : CLEANING FLUID AND CLEANING METHOD FOR COMPONENT OF
SEMICONDUCTOR-TREATING APPARATUS

LETTER TO PTO

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Examiner's telephone call to Applicants' undersigned Representative on September 11, 2002, Applicants submit herewith a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed on December 29, 2000, along with the date-stamped filing receipt evidencing timely filing thereof. This Preliminary Amendment served to remove all multiple dependencies and, therefore, the objection to Claims 10-12 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) is believed to be moot (see paper number 4).

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



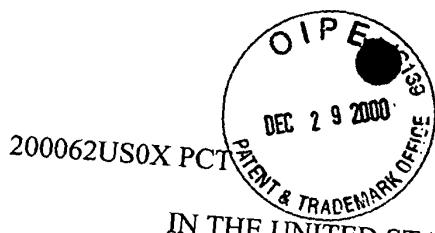
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

KENICHI HIROTA ET AL

SERIAL NO: 09/700,704

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

FILED: NOVEMBER 24, 2000

FOR: CLEANING SOLUTION AND
CLEANING METHOD FOR
COMPONENT OF SEMICONDUCTOR
PROCESSING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 5, line 2, change "any one of claims 1, 3, and 4" to --claim 1--.

Claim 7, line 2, change "any one of claims 1, 3, and 6" to --claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, delete "or 9".

Claim 11, lines 1-2, change "any one of claims 8 to 10" to --claim 8--.

Claim 12, lines 1-2, change "any one of claims 8 to 11" to --claim 8--.

Claim 13, line 2, change "any one of claims 8 to 12" to --claim 8--.

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